

Press release – August 12 – For immediate release

Ramsey Lewis Trio Concert Saturday Sept 17

A jazz legend. An anonymous donor. An opportunity for an audience to hear the legend and join the donor in passing on the love of the performing arts and perhaps contribute to the creation of a new jazz legend. All of these elements come together Saturday, September 17, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. at Kingswood Arts Center in Wolfeboro as Wolfeboro Friends of Music opens its 76th - concert season with the world-renowned *Ramsey Lewis Trio*.

The jazz legend. Known as “The Great Performer,” pianist, composer and radio personality Ramsey Lewis is one of the jazz world’s most popular and endearing artists. A native Chicagoan, Lewis captivated fans with his first album, *Ramsey Lewis and the Gentlemen of Swing*, in 1956. By the mid-1960s, his unique, pop-laced jazz infused with gospel, blues and classical music made him one of the nation’s most successful jazz pianists, topping the charts with *The In Crowd*, *Hang On Sloopy* and *Wade in the Water*. Lewis has three Grammy Awards and seven gold records to his credit, and he continues to tour with his trio. His latest albums include *Songs from the Heart: Ramsey Plays Ramsey*, a refined collection of 12 new originals, and *Ramsey, Taking Another Look*.

The anonymous donor. Friends of Music president Don Holm writes about the anonymous donor’s impact. “We are opening our season with a fund- raising event featuring the world-renowned *Ramsey Lewis Trio*. An anonymous member of the greater Wolfeboro community offered to underwrite a significant portion of Friends of Music’s opening concert. Because of the generosity of this anonymous donor, WFOM will be able to direct half of the net proceeds to our William H. Gibson Fund for use in our outreach programming for the benefit of students in the Lakes Region. We feel that supporting the arts in our communities must include exposing students to and encouraging them in developing a lifetime love and appreciation of music”

An opportunity for you to hear the legend and join the donor in passing on the love of the performing arts and perhaps contribute to the creation of a new jazz legend. Jazz may be a new medium of entertainment for some reading this. Come. Ramsey Lewis will open your eyes and ears to an amazing sound described as originating “at the beginning of the 20th century in African American communities in the Southern United States.” For the high school and college students who already love jazz and its rhythms, spontaneity, energy, and improvisational style, Lewis and his trio partners, Joshua Ramos on bass and Charles "Rick" Heath on drums, will deliver. A fun night out? This will do it. While you are enjoying your evening, you will be honoring the memory of William H. Gibson, for whom the Friends of Music’s educational fund is named. And you could be vicariously helping in the creation of a future jazz legend from the Great Lakes Region.

Tickets are available at Black’s Paper and Gift Shop, Avery Insurance in Wolfeboro, Innisfree Bookstore in Meredith or online at www.wfriendsofmusic.org with Economy seating tickets at \$25 up to VIP seating at \$75. For the Ramsey Lewis Trio concert, one child or high school student with ID is admitted free with an adult ticket purchaser in either Economy seating (\$25) or General seating (\$45). For groups of high school students with advisors and college students with ID, Economy seating is \$15 and General seating is \$35.



For more information about Ramsey Lewis, check out www.ramseylewis.com.